Ed.D. Hooding Instructions for CEHD Graduate Commencement

The College of Education & Human Development considers its doctoral candidates hooding at Graduate Commencement to be a very special occasion. It signifies the culmination of doctoral studies and the transition from candidate to colleague; it is and should be an important moment for those involved. We want to help make the moment meaningful and have it transpire smoothly.

Because the hooding ceremony occurs at Graduate Commencement in front of a large audience and requires a series of movements, below are instructions for those who will participate. Although the instructions are intended for the graduating doctoral candidate, the major professor may find them helpful as well.

Instructions

1. At Graduate Commencement, you will be asked to approach the stage with other doctoral candidates. At this point, you carry your hood draped over your forearm. You will be accompanied by your major professor, who will assist the designated person with your hooding. The designated person who will hood you is Dr. Walt Thompson, associate dean for graduate studies and research.

2. When you near the stage, change the position of your hood. Place your hands together, pointing outward, with the hood resting over your hands. The button loop at the neck will face upward and outward, away from you. The colored silk portion of the hood will face inward, toward you.

3. Once you are close to the stage, you will hand your card to the name reader. You will then proceed to the center of the stage, as will your major professor. Stand between your major professor and Dr. Thompson, facing the audience. (You can use the printed set of footprints on the stage floor as a guide for where to stand.)

4. Dr. Thompson will open the hood, lift it over your head, place it at your collar and drape the length of the hood down your back. (Depending on your height, you may need to stoop slightly.) Your major professor will also help put your hood over your head and in place. Smile and enjoy the moment.

5. You will turn to face Dr. Thompson and shake hands. Then turn and face your major professor to shake hands. This is a special moment to acknowledge the mentoring relationship you have shared with your major professor.

6. The major professor will shake hands with Dr. Thompson, and then both you and your major professor will proceed across the stage and shake hands with Dean Paul Alberto and the chair of your department. Both will be standing near the gift table, which will be located on the stage.

7. After you have shaken their hands and exited the stage, you will pose for an individual photo, and also a photo with your major professor – both will be taken by Grad Images Photography. Then, you can return to your seat.
Some Don'ts of Hooding

1. Don't position your hood draped over your forearm or clutch the hood as you approach the center of the stage. This makes it difficult for Dr. Thompson to grasp the hood properly and impedes the process.

2. Don’t spin around. You will make fairly subtle movements during the process, turning from your major professor and Dr. Thompson to face the audience for the hood placement, and then turning to shake hands. Allow your major professor and Dr. Thompson to guide your movements.

3. Don’t remove your cap.

If you have any questions regarding Graduate Commencement and your hooding, please e-mail cehdcommencement@gsu.edu or call 404-413-8131.